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LIGHT FIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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of


The MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

for YEAR 1941

By

RONALD E. JOHNSON, M.B., Ch.B..





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LICHFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Rural Council House,  
LICHFIELD.

1st June, 1942.

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Lichfield Rural  
District Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to report that during the year 1941 health conditions have remained at a high and satisfactory level.

The Birth Rate is above the average rate for England and Wales while the Death Rate and Infant Mortality Rate remain well below those for the whole country.

I have introduced a list of notifications of infectious diseases received. This has not been included before but I have felt that it would be extremely useful for purposes of comparison in future years. There has been no severe outbreak of any of the serious diseases. There was a fairly high incidence of Measles but this was experienced throughout the country.

From the Causes of Death it will be observed that there has been an increase in deaths due to Tuberculosis. This is part of a general marked increase over the whole country and the causes are at present under investigation by the Ministry of Health.



Immunisation of Children against Diphtheria under the Government Scheme has been proceeded with. Most of these cases have been performed by County Medical Officers either at Schools or at Infant Welfare Clinics. At present an attempt is being made to increase the numbers immunised and so I feel it wisest to wait until next year before giving a full report on results. The fact cannot be stressed too highly that, were every child in the country immunised against Diphtheria, the Diphtheria Blocks in the Isolation Hospitals could be closed and the complaint wiped out. At present this disease is the highest cause of death in children under the age of 5 and for every child of this age killed on the roads there are four killed by Diphtheria.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

RONALD E. JOHNSON.



BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED  
POPULATION. 17.1.

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED  
POPULATION. 11.6.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES :-  
Puerperal Sepsis Nil.  
Other Puerperal Causes. 3.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE :-  
All infants per 1,000 live births(29) ... 50.

DEATHS FROM CANCER (all ages)	54.
“ “ MEASLES (all ages)	1.
“ “ WHOOPING COUGH (all ages)	1.
“ “ DIARRHOEA (under 2 years)	2.

AVERAGE RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES  
FOR YEAR 1941.

Births per 1,000 Population	14.2.
Deaths per 1,000 Population	12.9.
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	59.

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF  
LICHFIELD DURING THE YEAR 1941.

CAUSES of DEATH (Civilians Only).

All Causes - 391.

1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	-
2. Measles	1
3. Scarlet Fever	-
4. Whooping Cough	-
5. Diphtheria	3
6. Influenza	4
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	-
8. Cerebrospinal Fever	-
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	14
10. Other Tuberculosis Diseases	5



11. Syphilis .....	2
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis .....	-
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease .....	54
14. Diabetes .....	5
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ....	43
16. Heart Disease .....	74
17. Aneurysm .....	-
18. Other Circulatory Diseases .....	5
19. Bronchitis .....	30
20. Pneumonia (all forms) .....	20
21. Other Respiratory Diseases .....	8
22. Peptic Ulcer .....	6
23. Diarrhoea under 2 years .....	2
24. Appendicitis .....	-
25. Cirrhosis of Liver .....	-
26. Other Diseases of Liver .....	-
27. Other Digestive Diseases .....	12
28. Acute & Chronic Nephritis .....	11
29. Puerperal Sepsis .....	-
30. Other Puerperal Causes .....	3
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Births, Malformations .....	16
32. Senility .....	-
33. Suicide .....	2
34. <b>Other Violence</b> .....	24
35. Other Defined Causes .....	51
36. Causes Ill-defined or unknown .....	-

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1941.  
 (Civilians Only)

Typhoid Fever .....	2
Paratyphoid Fever .....	79
Scarlet Fever .....	118
Whooping Cough .....	57
Diphtheria .....	16
Erysipelas .....	338
Measles .....	57
Pneumonia .....	3
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	